

REMARKS

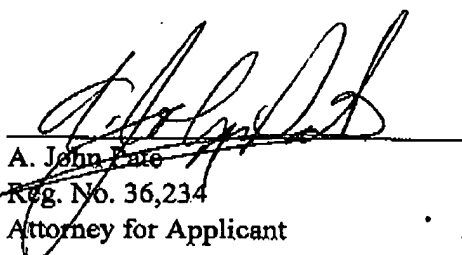
The Office Action mailed August 19, 2004 has been received and reviewed. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 9-28 are in the case. Claims 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9-12, 15, and 22-28 have been allowed. Claims 16-21 have been deemed to contain allowable subject matter.

By this paper, claims 1, 16, and 21-25 have been amended to correct various claim informalities. Claim 13 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 16. (Applicant maintains that claim 13, as well as claim 14, was allowable over Krakirian before amendment by this paper. Applicant has amended claim 13 to harvest currently allowable subject matter and reserves the right to pursue claims 13 and 14, as recited before amendment by this paper, in continuing applications.) Claim 16 has been amended to depend from claim 15. Newly added claims 29-33 represent the subject matter of claims 17-21 and depend from newly amended claim 13. Favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

In the event that the examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of any of these claims, which could be clarified in a telephone conference, the examiner is respectfully urged to initiate the same with the undersigned.

DATED this 2nd day of September, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,


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